

REMARKS

Claims 19, 20, 22-25, 27 and 28 have been canceled and claims 29-36 have been added.

The Examiner has rejected claims 19-20, 22-25, and 27-28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimada (US Patent No. 5,640,171) in view of Takebe (JP 04-314221 A) and Yokoi et al. (US Patent No. 5,864,346).

New claims 29-36 are based on the eighth embodiment in the specification. In the arrangement of Figure 17, an image signal is A/D-converted by the A/D conversion circuit 1912, and, according to the elapsed time of the timer circuit 1911, a display picture size is changed through the field memory 1913, the memory control means 1914 and the electronic-zoom control means 1915 by the controller 1910, so that the user can be informed of the lapse of time. For example, as shown in Figure 18, a display image is repeatedly reduced and enlarged to warn the user of the lapse of time. (See Applicants' Specification, p.29, ll.13-21.)

Shimada fails to disclose a constitution equivalent to "an image size changing unit adapted to change an image size of the image to be displayed on said display unit so as to warn the user that the time set by said time setting unit is passed, if said detection unit detects that the time set by said time setting unit is passed", as recited in claims 29 and 33.

Instead, Shimada teaches the following: While in the display mode switching circuit 4, switches or the like are operated and the necessary display mode is selected from the standard display mode (2D) and the field sequential stereoscopic display mode (3D), so that the display mode signal (2D or 3D) being, for example, a high level signal in the case of 2D, and a low level signal in the case of 3D, is supplied to the adjusting value switching circuit 3 and the stereoscopic display controller 5. (See Shimada Patent, col.4, ll.19-26.)

In addition, Takebe fails to disclose a constitution equivalent to “an image size changing unit adapted to change an image size of the image to be displayed on said display unit so as to warn the user that the time set by said time setting unit is passed, if said detection unit detects that the time set by said time setting unit is passed”, as recited in claims 29 and 33.

Takebe merely proposes a detection unit adapted to detect whether a predetermined time is passed. That is, the decoder 22 drives a lighting section 18 and counts a predetermined time and when the operation switch 24 is not operated, the time count is expired to turn off the lighting section 18. (See Takebe Patent, abstract.)

Finally, Yokoi also fails to disclose a constitution equivalent to “an image size changing unit adapted to change an image size of the image to be displayed on said display unit so as to warn the user that the time set by said time setting unit is passed, if said detection unit detects that the time set by said time setting unit is passed”, as recited in claims 29 and 33.

Yokoi merely proposes a time setting unit adapted to set predetermined time by manual operation. That is, the timer value which is stored in the area 2221 defines a time interval from starting of the game to shutdown processing (forcible game interruption processing), i.e., a permissible game continuation time α (e.g., 30 minutes or 1 hour). The electronic game device may be so formed that the timer value can be changed by the player's operation. On the other hand, the interruption time counting timer value which is stored in the area 2224 defines a game restartable time γ up to permission for cancellation of game interruption caused by the shutdown processing. (See Yokoi Patent, col.5 l.64-col.6 l.7.)

For all of the above reasons, new claims 29 and 33 patently distinguish over the Shimada, Takebe and Yokoi patents. Claims 30-32 and 34-36 depend from claims 29 and 33, therefore contain all the limitations of those independent claims.

Correction of IDS

Please note that the Information Disclosure Statement form PTO-1449, filed in duplicate on December 13, 2005 for the above-identified application incorrectly indicated the cited reference. Enclosed, in duplicate is a replacement Form PTO-1449 to replace the form filed on December 13, 2005. The cited reference is now indicated as “Japan H07-~~020~~769 April 11, 1995 (Utility Model)” instead of “Japan H07-202769 April 11, 1995 (Utility Model)”. The USPTO PAIRS Image File Wrapper shows that reference H07-020769 was submitted with translation.

Examiner is respectfully requested to replace the original PTO-1449 form with the attached replacement form PTO-1449, in duplicate, and to mark one copy of the form (equivalent to PTO-1449) indicating that the Examiner has reviewed the listed documents and return the marked copy to applicants’ undersigned attorney.

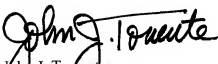
Conclusion

In view of the above it is submitted that applicants’ claims, as amended, patentably distinguish over the cited art of record. Accordingly, reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

Dated: February 20, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

COWAN, LIEBOWITZ & LATMAN, P. C.
1133 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
T (212) 790-9200


John J. Torrente
Reg. No. 26,339
An Attorney of Record